Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Related Application paragraph on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Pursuant to 35 USC 119(e), this original patent application claims priority from a provisional patent application filed on September 2, 2003, titled "Data Mirroring," by Missimer et al., (attorney docket number 003.P001), U.S. provisional application number [[_____]] 60/499,396, assigned to the assignee of the currently claimed subject matter.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

The issue may arise in mirroring devices, such as a fibre channel switch, as described in, for example, Patent Application "Fibre Channel Zoning by Device Name in Hardware," by Ding-Long Wu, David C. Banks, and Jieming Zhu, filed on July 17, 2002, US Patent Application Serial No. 10/123,996, (attorney docket number 112-0015US); and in Patent Application "STORAGE AREA NETWORK PROCESSING DEVICE," by Venkat Rangan, Anil Goyal, Curt Beckmann, Ed McClanahan, Guru Pangal, Michael Schmitz, Vinodh Ravindran, filed on June 30, 2003, US Patent Application Serial No. 10/610,304, (attorney docket number 112-0112US), both of the foregoing patent applications assigned to the assignee of the presently claimed subject matter, which may convert single write requests into multiple write requests for reasons such as achieving redundancy of data, as suggested above. It is, of course, appreciated that the claimed subject matter is not limited to the switch implementations described in the foregoing patent applications. These applications are provided merely as examples. Nonetheless, in such an environment, the pace of write data transmission may be controlled at least in part by storage devices that will be receiving the data. However, if, for example:

- several are handling a request; and/or

     - ~~this~~there is not agreement on the amount of data to accept; and/or

     - the mirroring device cannot store or buffer the

      data to allow a slower or smaller device to catch up;

it may be desirable for an intermediate device to have a way of satisfying the storage devices while also satisfying the initiator which is requesting the write operation.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 12, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

     FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram illustrating an embodiment of a network including a mirroring device, although, of course, the claimed subject matter is not limited in scope to this particular embodiment. Embodiment 700 includes mirroring device 710, initiator ~~710~~720 and targets 730, 740 and 750. In this embodiment, these devices are included in a storage area network (SAN). Likewise, FIG. 9 illustrates an embodiment of a network including a mirroring device 810 included in a fabric 820. Fabric 820 in embodiment 800 is formed by switches, such as 830, and mirroring device 810. Switches 830 are coupled to nodes 840. Example nodes are hosts and target devices, such as RAID units, JBOD units and tape libraries. Again, these examples are merely provided for purposes of illustration and the claimed subject matter is not limited in scope to these example embodiments.